

From: [REDACTED]
To: MN_Health_PIR@state.mn.us
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: MDH Requests Input on Two New Proposed Specialty Hospitals
Date: Wednesday, January 24, 2024 8:20:01 AM

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Dear Director Gildemeister,

We appreciate the outreach to comment on these proposed moratorium exemption requests from Nobis Rehabilitation Partners and Regency Hospital Partners. Please find our comments and questions below regarding each request separately.

Nobis Rehabilitation Partners

We recognize the need for additional inpatient rehabilitation beds in Minnesota. Our concern with this proposed 60-bed facility is that it seems narrowly focused on the seven-county-metro. Will the admission criteria reflect this geographic preference or be based upon acuity of the prospective patients and the needs of the broader state? We would favor a model that not only is inclusive of greater Minnesota, but also ensures admission criteria will not consider the patients ability to pay or discourage admissions from those on public programs. CentraCare would support this proposal so long as it is broadened to include greater Minnesota and greater Minnesotans, regardless of their payor status.

Regency Hospital of Minneapolis

CentraCare supports this proposal and sees the need for large hospitals to partner with LTACs to ensure proper patient discharge flow to enable their tertiary and quaternary level services to the public. Currently, there are tertiary and quaternary services that cannot meet the needs of the community for lack of appropriate patient discharges to the broader continuum of care. LTACs serve a vital role for a vulnerable population in need of care. CentraCare shares this need at our St. Cloud Hospital campus. We hope the legislature will look to support this and other creative solutions that help large hospitals address the needs of their patients and those of patients waiting for a bed to open up.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important work,
Joy Plamann

**Joy Plamann, DNP, MBA, RN | CentraCare Chief Operating Officer - St. Cloud Hospital
President
(she/her/hers)**

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